

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

The risen
Jesus gives
us peace.





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Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

- 1. How do you generally feel each morning? With more peace? Or more worry?
- 2. When Jesus appeared to his disciples he said 'peace be with you'. What did that mean? What does it mean for you?
- 3. How does the resurrection make a difference in your life?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	John 20:19-31	Jesus appears to the disciples
M	Acts 4:32-35	The sharing of goods
Т	1 John 1:1-2:2	The word of life
W	John 14:23-31	Jesus speaks of peace
Т	Romans 5:1-11	We have peace with God
F	Philippians 4:4-9	The God of peace be with you
S	Psalm 133	The blessing of unity

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

JOHN 20:21





CREATIVE RESPONSE

There is a long history of Christians sharing a sign of peace with one another in public worship as a physical expression of the peace God gives to us through Jesus. It connects directly to Jesus' greeting his disciples in the resurrection. That public greeting also extended to personal greetings.

Romans 16:16 refers to Christians greeting each other with a "holy kiss."

Decide with others on a sign of peace that you can share together in daily life, such as a special handshake, hug, or kiss.

As you share this sign bless each other by saying, "The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you."



ACTION RESPONSE

Acts 4:32-35 says that the first followers of Jesus shared their belongings with one another and made sure that no fellow Christians were in need. The power of the resurrection had changed their understanding of what they owned and how they cared for each other. This response is a confession of faith and a commitment to love your neighbour as yourself.

Consider everything you own as a loan from God to love others. How might that influence your actions today?



MEALTIME PRAYER

Risen Lord Jesus, you give us food for the body and peace for the soul. May faith be our way and love be our goal. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand the Scriptures and our mouths to speak of you. Amen.



BLESSING

May the light of God's face shine on you and be gracious to you and fill your heart with joy.